



Express Mail Label
No. EL895072996US

Patent Application

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: KOCH, Earl

Art Group: 3671

Serial No.: 09/553,452

Examiner: K. Markovich

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Atty. Docket: 27,136-01

For: Temporary Ramp

#15
Letter
4/15/02

APPLICANT'S STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

APR 09 2002

Sir:

GROUP 3600

This statement is provided in response to the Examiner's Interview Summary dated March 12, 2002 for the interview conducted on March 5, 2002. The Examiner's Interview Summary indicates that Applicant is to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

The Interview Summary was mistakenly directed to the undersigned's former firm. As indicated by a date stamp, the undersigned's former firm did not receive the Examiner's Interview Summary until March 18, 2002 and did not forward it to the undersigned's new firm until March 20, 2002. By the time the undersigned's new firm had received the Examiner's Interview Summary on March 22, 2002, the undersigned had already filed a written Response, mailed March 19, 2002, in response to the December 19, 2001 Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant's March 19, 2002 Response did not include a statement of the substance of the interview. Applicant hereby provides a separate record of the substance of the interview within one month from the March 5, 2002 interview date as directed by the Interview Summary form PTO-413 and MPEP § 713.04.

Interview Summary

Applicant submitted by fax a proposed new claim 25 including a new limitation requiring the upper surface of each temporary ramp section to have a ratio of inclination of 1:20. The

Examiner maintained that the proposed new claim 25 would not overcome the Examiner's original § 103(a) obviousness rejection based on the combination of Shaftner in view of Rech.

Applicant traversed the Examiner's conclusion that one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to combine the teachings of Shaftner and Rech to produce the claimed combination (with or without the additional limitation requiring the temporary ramp to have an upper surface with a ratio of inclination of 1:20), since neither reference provides the necessary motivation, suggestion of teaching to combine their teachings.

Applicant also proposed adding limitations wherein the temporary ramp was comprised of a heavy core with an elastomeric upper surface. The Examiner maintained that such a limitation would still not overcome an obviousness rejection.

No agreement was reached on any allowable subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl D. Koch

Date: April 3, 2002

By:




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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10, I hereby certify that this Applicant's Statement of Substance of Interview in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/553,492, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service by Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee service, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of deposit and under the mailing label number indicated below.

Date of Deposit: April 3, 2002

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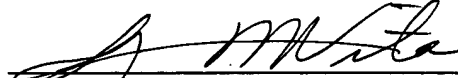

GERALYN M. VITA

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Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10, I hereby certify that this Transmittal and accompanying Applicant's Statement of Substance of Interview in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/553,492, are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service by Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee service, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of deposit and under the mailing label number indicated below.

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Geralyn M. Vita

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